

In The Claims:

A marked-up version of the claims showing the amendments is attached hereto as Exhibit

A. Matter that has been deleted from the claims is indicated by brackets and matter that has been added is indicated by underlining.

Please enter the following amended claims:

D1 9. (Amended) A method of preparing water-insoluble α -1,4-glucans comprising contacting a reaction mixture comprising sucrose with an enzyme having amylosucrase enzymatic activity under aqueous, buffer-free conditions to provide a product mixture comprising water-insoluble α -1,4-glucans and fructose, wherein at least 70% of said sucrose is converted to α -1,4-glucans and fructose within 23.5 hours.

D2 14. (Amended) The method of claim 9 in which the enzyme having amylosucrase enzymatic activity has a purity, in U/ μ g of purified protein, of at least 80%.

D3 20. (Amended) A method of preparing water-insoluble α -1,4-glucans comprising contacting sucrose with an amylosucrase under aqueous, buffer-free conditions to provide water-insoluble α -1,4-glucans and fructose, wherein at least 70% of said sucrose is converted to α -1,4-glucans and fructose within 23.5 hours.

D4 25. (Amended) The method of claim 14 in which the enzyme has a purity, in U/ μ g of purified protein, of at least 90%.